Serial No. 09/502,882

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application claims the benefit of <u>U.S. Patent Number 6,690,682</u> U.S. Previsional Application No. 60/124,293, filed March 12, 1999, and is related to U.S. Patent Application No. _______ (Attorney Docket No. 56115534.118125, Case Name: Giaretta 2 28-22 28-16), entitled "Bit Multiplexing of Packet-Based Channels" and <u>U.S. Patent Number 6,771,671, filed November 22, 1999, U.S. Patent Application No. __/_____ (Attorney Docket No. 1813, Case Name Fields 2-29-24-18), entitled "DATA FLOW SYNCHRONIZATION AND ORDERING".</u>